

[Docket No. CP96-248-003]

Portland Natural Gas Transmission System; Notice of Amendment to Application for Authorization to Operate Border Facilities and for Presidential Permit

November 7, 1996.

Take notice that on November 1, 1996, Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS), 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581-5039, filed an amendment to its application filed pursuant to Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, Sections 153.10 through 153.12 of the Commission's Regulations, and Executive Order No. 10485, as amended by Executive Order No. 12038 and Secretary of Energy Delegation Order No. 0204-112, for Section 3 authorization and a Presidential Permit to site, construct, operate and maintain pipeline facilities at the United States-Canada International Boundary, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, PNGTS now seeks authorization to site, construct, operate and maintain approximately 500 feet of either 20-inch or 24-inch diameter pipeline in the town of Pittsburg, New Hampshire, commencing at the United States-Canada border and ending at a proposed joint or bend in the pipeline. The accompanying Section 7(c) filing has been amended, in Docket No. CP96-249-003, to reflect, *inter alia*, a revised route from the international border at Pittsburg, New Hampshire to Shelburne, New Hampshire. In the Section 7(c) filing, PNGTS filed two cases. Case No. 1 proposes a 20-inch diameter pipeline at the international border and Case No. 2 proposes a 24-inch diameter pipeline at the border. PNGTS has requested that both proposals be granted and that it will inform the Commission, prior to construction, whether it will construct Case No. 1 or Case No. 2.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before November 29, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party

in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 3 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for PNGTS to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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Portland Natural Gas Transmission System; Notice of Amendment

November 7, 1996.

Take notice that on November 1, 1996, Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS), 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581-5039, filed in Docket No. CP96-249-003, an amendment to its pending application in Docket No. CP96-249-000 for a certificate of public convenience and necessity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the National Gas Act, to construct and operate pipeline facilities for the transportation of natural gas on a firm and interruptible basis, all as more fully set forth in the amendment which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, PNGTS offers two proposals both of which have a proposed in-service date of November 1, 1998. PNGTS proposes in Case No. 1 to replace approximately 91 miles of its originally proposed route from the international border near Jay, Vermont to Shelburne, New Hampshire with approximately 73 miles of pipeline from the international border near Pittsburg, New Hampshire to Shelburne, New Hampshire. PNGTS also proposes to construct and operate three additional

laterals: The Groveton Lateral (0.8 miles of 8-inch diameter pipeline), the Rumford-Jay Lateral (26.9 miles of 10-inch diameter pipeline and 16.6 miles of 8-inch diameter pipeline), and the Westbrook Lateral (3.9 miles of 8-inch diameter pipeline).¹ Four new meter stations will be constructed in conjunction with the proposed new laterals. In sum, PNGTS proposes in Case No. 1 to construct approximately 224.1 miles of 20-inch diameter pipeline, four laterals, and seven metering stations with a capacity of 178,000 Mcf per day. The estimated cost of the facilities in Case No. 1 is \$303,307,762.

PNGTS states that it offers Case No. 2 in response to the Commission's July 31, 1996 preliminary determination in this proceeding to accommodate both PNGTS's volumes as well as the prospective deliveries of Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. (Maritimes) under a joint venture arrangement. In Case No. 2, PNGTS proposes to construct along the same revised route and to construct the same laterals and metering stations as proposed in Case No. 1. However, in Case No. 2, PNGTS proposes to construct a 140.8 miles of 24-inch diameter pipeline from the international border near Pittsburg, New Hampshire to Westbrook, Maine and 83.3 miles of 30-inch diameter pipeline from Westbrook to Haverhill, Massachusetts. PNGTS insists that the Case No. 2 facilities can accommodate Sable Island gas supplies delivered through either the Trans-Quebec Maritime project or Maritimes Phase II. The estimated cost of the facilities in Case No. 2 is \$361,412,682.

PNGTS requests that both proposals be granted and that it will inform the Commission, prior to construction, whether it will construct Case No. 1 or Case No. 2.

PNGTS proposes to offer firm transportation service (Rate Schedule FT) and interruptible transportation service (Rate Schedule IT) and intends to use negotiated rates for winter period or off-peak period services. PNGTS states that the rates will utilize a straight fixed-variable rate design and are based on a winter-day design capacity of 178,000 MMBtu per day. PNGTS states that its rates will be levelized for an initial twenty-year period with 80 percent of the cost recovered through depreciation during the levelization period. PNGTS has filed a *pro forma* tariff containing the terms and

¹ The Westbrook Lateral will replace the Falmouth Lateral (3.3 miles of 12-inch pipeline) which was proposed in the original application.